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476-1649

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF:

Roy Harold Mauger, Julian Frank Barry and
Clive Colin Hayball

Serial No: 09/156,541

Issued Date: September 17, 1998

FOR: Communications System Architecture
And Operating Methods Thereof

) Examiner: Kevin C Harper
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) Group Art Unit: 2664
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)I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope
addressed to " Director of Patents and Trademarks, Washington,
D.C. 20231, " on January 30, 2003

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF NOVEMBER 5, 2002

Honorable Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Examiner's Office Action of November 5, 2002.

No Amendments are believed necessary, as will be seen in a moment.

The Examiner has allowed all remaining claims but Claim 39 in the November 5, 2002 Office Action. The Examiner has rejected Claim 39 under U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by Hayball U.S. Patent Number 6,385,196. The Hayball reference is owned by the assignee of the present application, but is an inappropriate reference. Hayball was filed on December 16, 1997. The present application claims the priority of U.K. application 9720920.9 filed on October 1, 1997. A certified copy of that application was submitted to the Patent and Trademark

Office when the present application was filed on September 17, 1998.

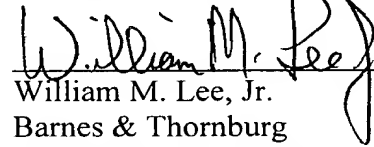
Since the priority basis for the present application has been perfected, and since the priority application was filed before the December 16, 1997 filing date of cited Hayball U.S. Patent Number 6,385,196, Hayball is not a proper reference, and withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested.

The only matter remaining is the requirement for drawings. Submitted herewith are also the necessary formal drawings for this application.

In view of the forgoing, it is submitted that this application is now fully in condition for allowance, and the Examiner's further and favorable reconsideration in that regard is urged.

January 30, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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